

CLAIMS MARKED TO SHOW AMENDMENTS

1. (amended) A process [Process] for the production of cellulosic fibres from solutions of cellulose in an aqueous tertiary amine oxide [whereby the extruded fibres are led] comprising (i) extruding cellulosic fibres; (ii) leading the fibres through a precipitating bath; (iii) cutting the fibres to form a fleece; (iv) passing the fleece [and cut and the cut fibres are passed] through a series of wash baths [in the form of a fleece and then dried whereby] ,wherein (a) the wash baths are connected one to the other, [and whereby] (b) fresh washing liquor is applied to the last wash bath and led in countercurrent with the transportation direction of the [fibre] fleece; and [to the first wash bath characterised in that] (c) the pH value of each of said wash baths is maintained higher than 8.5; and (v) drying the washed fleece.

2. (amended) The process [Process] according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein the pH value of each of the wash baths is maintained between 9 and 11.

3. (amended) The process [Process] according to either claim 1 or 2 [characterised in that] wherein the pH value in the wash baths is set by adding alkaline buffering substances.

4. (amended) The process [Process] according to claim 3 [characterised in that] wherein sodium hydroxide is added to at least one of the wash baths.

5. (amended) The process [Process] according to [one of the previous claims characterised in that] claim 1 wherein liquor is forced out of the fibre fleece after the fleece leaves the wash bath and before [it] the fleece enters the following wash bath.

6. (amended) The process [Process] according to one of the previous claims characterised in that] of claim 1 wherein the temperature of the washing liquor equals 20°C to 90° C.